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FRETILIN

TO: all support committees,
friendship associations,
fraternal organizations,
and friends.

Communique

1. The Central Committee of FRETILIN, inside East Timor, determined that all Central Committee members, now residing abroad, should gather in Maputo, capital of the People's Republic of Mozambique, whenever necessary, in Plenary meetings, with a view to consult with each other, establish dialogue, plan activities, and to solve problems that affect the Organization.
2. The Central Committee of FRETILIN, with the full agreement of the Party and Government of Mozambique, had also determined that Maputo should be the central FRETILIN's overseas office. This decision by the Central Committee of FRETILIN in chosing Maputo for the center of all FRETILIN activities overseas was determined by the close ties between FRELIMO and FRETILIN, and between both Governments and Peoples. FRETILIN leaders and militants - as well as friends - have found warm hospitality, consistent and unconditional support on the part of FRELIMO leadership and the Government. When problems existed within FRETILIN, our FRELIMO comrades have always offered thier guidance, in a very brotherly fashion, to help solving our problems, and to cement the Unity in our ranks.
3. In line with the decision of the Central Committee of FRETILIN, a Plenary meeting was convened in Maputo, capital of the People's Republic of Mozambique, beteen May 21st and 23rd.
4. All FRETILIN Central Committee members abroad were invited to this Plenary.
5. Majority attended the Plenary:
   - José Luis Guterres
   - M. Alkatiri
   - Jose Ramos-Horta
   - Roque Rodrigues
6. The following elements refused to attend;
   - Rogerio Lobato
   - Abilio Araujo
   - Guilherrina Araujo
7. Guilherrina Araujo never attended any previous Plenary except one, in 1977. Though she is a Central Committee member, Guilherrina Araujo never exercised her responsibilities and duties, and opted to live in Lisbon as a public servant.
8. The Plenary reached the following conclusions:
   8.1. Declares it's active and firm support to the Central Committee of FRETILIN, inside the territory, leading the armed struggle for national liberation.

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8.2. Declares its uncompromising commitment to the rights of the people of East Timor to self-determination and independence, to FRETILIN Political Programme, and to the Constitution of DRET.

8.3. Declares its support for continuing armed struggle as the main factor in the achievement of total independence and national liberation.

8.4. Declares that while armed struggle is the determining factor in the historic process of national liberation, active diplomacy and international solidarity are important elements of the overall struggle.

8.5. Every FRETILIN Representative should always strive to widen FRETILIN's international posture and to consolidate its gains.

8.6. Every FRETILIN Representative should always fulfil his/hers duties and assignments with full energies and abilities.

8.7. A refusal to fulfil an assignment, regardless of the excuses, is a serious breach of discipline, and a betrayal of the sacrifices of the many thousand of East Timorese women, men and children, who have already perished; it is a betrayal of the sacrifices endured by other leaders who are leading the struggle in most difficult conditions.

8.8. Whatever assignment and under any circumstance, a FRETILIN Representative abroad will not evade from his/hers responsibilities.

9. The Plenary, having considered the balance of the activities, at the United Nations, of the years 1977, 1978, and 1979, registered that in comparison to the previous year, the 1979 General Assembly of 1979 was a remarkable success for FRETILIN. In 1978, the final GA vote on East Timor was: 59 for, 31 against. In 1979, the result was: 62 for, 31 against. It should be noted that there was an increase in three votes in spite of the abstention of all Eastern bloc. In 1978, the number of co-sponsors was 11. In 1979, the number was 22. The GA of 1978 was, no doubt, a serious setback for FRETILIN, in the sense that comparing to 1977, FRETILIN, lost 10 positive votes, while the negative votes increased by five. The content of 1977 resolution was a great achievement for FRETILIN while the 1978 resolution was very weak. It was basicaly unchanged in 1979. Numerous delegations from Algeria, Angola, Benine, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, China, Cuba, Vietnam, Mexico, Brazil, Uganda, etc congratulated FRETILIN Representatives after the Plenary of the GA had voted on the East Timor resolution, in 1979.

10. Finally, the Plenary announced that the following elements should represent FRETILIN at the next UN General Assembly session on East Timor: Jose Luis Guterres, Abilio Araujo, and Mari Alkatiri.

11. It was also decided that Abilio Araújo should go to New York in July to asess the situation at the UN in order to propose a strategy for the coming GA.

11. It was decided that the delegation to the GA should arrive in NY no later than September 10th.

12. The Plenary decided to continue its efforts to persuade Rogério Lobato and Abílio Araújo to come to Mozambique very urgently for a face to face dialogue with all FRETILIN leaders and with FRELIMO comrades in order to solve the problems that are now hampering FRETILIN unity and dinamism.

13. The Plenary decided also to appeal to all support Committees, friendship associations, fraternal organizations and friends, to strictly follow the guidelines of FRETILIN Central Committee in their solidarity campaign.

Maputo, May 28th, 1980

Fraternally Yours,

JOSE LUIS GUTERRES
Central Committee of FRETILIN,
Diplomatic Front

REVOLUCIONARIA DO TIMOR LESTE INDEPENDENTE